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Weekly Weather Crop Report

Week Ending: April 21, 1996

Released 3:00 pm: April 22, 1996

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 3.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending April 21, 1996. The main farming activities for the week included planting corn, rice, sorghum and soybeans. Warm, dry weather will permit more cotton to be planted. Weekend rainfall in some areas of the state stopped planting and land preparation for most crops. Cattle and pasture conditions are beginning to improve. Soil moisture conditions were rated 6 percent short, 61 percent adequate and 33 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1995	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	87	77	85	66	0	3	45	47	5
	Emerged	53	34	64	47					
Cotton	Planted	2	1	17	11	---	---	---	---	---
Rice	Planted	49	30	63	35	---	---	---	---	---
	Emerged	24	---	35	7					
Sorghum	Planted	50	20	40	31	---	---	---	---	---
	Emerged	26	---	22	19					
Soybeans	Planted	15	12	14	5	---	---	---	---	---
Wheat	Jointing	92	90	95	93	0	9	36	49	6
	Heading	37	22	59	50					
Peanuts	Planted	6	1	19	12	---	---	---	---	---
Sweet potatoes	Planted	5	4	2	4	---	---	---	---	---
Watermelons	Planted	52	47	53	54	0	1	10	80	9
Cattle						1	14	45	34	6
Pasture						3	16	45	31	5

County Agent Comments

"Weekend rainfall stopped corn planting and cotton land preparation in the south end of the county. Producers on the north end did not receive enough rainfall to stop corn planting. Cool nighttime temperatures continue to hold back spring pasture growth. Warmer, drier weather is needed to stay on schedule with corn, cotton, and soybean planting. There are reports of seed sweet potatoes rotting in the beds due to cold temps."

— Mike Howell, Calhoun County

"Corn planting is almost complete. Cotton planting is being delayed because of excessive moisture and below normal soil temperatures. Pastures are slowly beginning to green up because night temperatures are increasing. Grazing is seasonally short and hay is non-existent."

— Don Schmidt, Leake County

"Corn planting is almost completed. Once again, the rain has put a stop to corn planting and land preparation. Aphids and other early season insects are attacking corn. Some acres have already been treated."

— Otis L. Davis, Madison County

"Still cool and damp, but corn planting has resumed this week. Some producers are even beginning to think about cotton planting, field preparations are progressing rapidly."

— Fred W. Rose, Webster County

"Wet fields are keeping farmers from planting cotton, soybeans and grain sorghum. Soil temperatures are still cool. It's beginning to appear that we won't have a spring, with the season jumping from winter to summer."

— Roger D. Jones, Perry County

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
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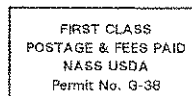
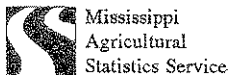
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician

Weather Summary from April 15, 1996 to April 21, 1996 For Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Ave Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Ave	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Ave	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	86	40	64	64	-1	0.32	-0.62	2	2.48	77	48	62	0.24
Cleveland	83	37	60			2.18		3	4.35				
Tunica													
Extreme/Average	86	37	62	64	-2	1.25	+0.31	3	3.42	77	48	62	0.24
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	86	30	62	61	+0	0.35	-0.70	3	3.63	77	45	61	0.21
Memphis	85	40	64	65	-1	0.72	-0.23	2	3.59				
Oxford	88	30	63	62	+2	1.79	+1.03	3	4.12				
Extreme/Average	88	30	63	63	+0	0.95	+0.03	3	3.78	77	45	61	0.21
3. Northeast													
Booneville	83	38	60	62	-2	2.70	+1.89	3	5.96				
Corinth	87	37	64	64	+1	1.97	+1.10	4	3.91				
Iuka	83	30	59			1.95		3	3.97				
Pontotoc	86	37	63	63	+1	2.23	+1.30	3	4.62	75	48	63	0.23
Tupelo	85	35	63	64	-1	2.68	+1.59	4	5.67				
Verona	85	36	63			2.93		3	5.39	72	46	60	0.22
Extreme/Average	87	30	62	63	-1	2.41	+1.48	3	4.92	75	46	62	0.21
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	81	41	63	66	-3	3.97	+3.05	3	6.52	81	55	68	
Greenwood	85	40	65	65	-0	3.46	+2.47	3	5.84				
Rolling Fork	85	41	64			3.62	+3.00	2	7.02	82	59	71	0.19
Stoneville													
Yazoo City													
Extreme/Average	85	40	64	66	-2	3.68	+2.84	3	6.46	82	55	69	0.19
5. Central													
Carthage	86	35	64	65	-1	1.36	+0.55	1	5.08				
Jackson	86	39	67	66	+0	0.12	-1.03	2	6.14				
Winona	86	30	59	62	-2	5.55	+4.50	2	7.89				
Extreme/Average	86	30	63	64	-1	2.34	+1.34	2	6.37				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	90	42	68			2.62	+1.68	2	5.34				
Columbus	87	40	65			3.54		3	7.30				
State University	88	20	60	64	-4	0.62	-0.19	2	3.74	78	49	63	
Extreme/Average	90	20	64	64	+0	2.26	+1.38	2	5.46	78	49	63	
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	87	40	65			1.40		2	6.71	78	56	68	
Natchez	85	41	67	68	-1	0.68	-0.41	2	6.28				
Oakley	86	39	64			1.69	+0.71	1	6.66	85	50	66	
Vicksburg	85	43	65			1.07		1	6.56				
Extreme/Average	87	39	65	68	-2	1.21	+0.17	2	6.55	85	50	67	
8. South-Central													
Columbia				68		0.74	-0.23	2	4.59				
McComb	84	37	66	67	-1	0.30	-0.78	2	2.24				
Extreme/Average	84	37	66	67	-1	0.52	-0.51	2	3.42				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	85	37	65			1.59		2	6.54	80	54	68	
Hattiesburg	82	37	65	67	-3	1.68	+0.91	3	8.46				
Laurel													
Meridian	85	36	65	65	-1	0.51	-0.32	4	6.88				
Newton	85	36	64	64	-0	1.49	+0.71	3	5.96	73	47	62	0.17
Extreme/Average	85	35	65	66	-1	1.32	+0.53	3	6.71	80	47	65	0.17
10. Coastal													
Bay St. Louis	75	42	62			9.45		2	20.96				
Biloxi	79	48	68	69	-1	3.57	+2.93	2	10.27				
Gulfport	76	46	66	69	-3	3.65	+2.98	3	13.75				
Pascagoula	76	43	64	69	-6	7.93	+7.35	4	18.18				
Poplarville	83	38	64	68	-4	1.10	+0.23	3	7.00	79	57	68	0.15
Extreme/Average	83	38	65	69	-4	5.14	+4.45	3	13.63	79	57	68	0.15
State	90	20	64	65	-1	2.11	+1.20	3	6.07	85	45	65	0.18

Abbreviations: DFN = Departure from Normal

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